

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 11:16:54 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 09:18:25 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171406.KAA06551@cc01du.unity.ncsu.edu>  
From: rdkeys@unity.ncsu.edu  
Subject: Re: 1750 Meter articles coming.

>  
> Best to begin work on equipment in the summer. Daytime,  
> static is very low and sigs are good out to groundwave  
> range. Makes for good local work, and I heard from one  
> person whos club was providing their aspiring novices  
> with 1750 equipment so they could work each other.  
> What a great idea!

I concur. Magnificent demonstration and locals aboard idea.

Back in 1914, my OM used to work the local boy scouts fellas  
on spark with a model T ford spark coil and a navy style loose  
coupler and it probably was on a similar sort of wave. He said  
it worked great for around town after school.

A modern Hartley based upon a very common 6SN7 or 12AT7 tube  
running on a few volts, would fill the bill nicely. A similar  
tube in a detector and one step would complete the ``modern 1929  
style amateur station''.

> 73 DE AB5S/7 Dave Stinson  
>  
> p.s. No reason we couldn't come up with a class B  
> that could fit the requirements. I think it's a  
> neat idea, Bob. However, what's a "decrement of .1"??  
> I'm not \*THAT\* old! (heh heh)

Now youse gonna makes me haves ta run to da book..... (:+}}.....

See Elmer Bucher's Practical Wireless Telegraphy, 1917 edition.....

For a spark to work well, it needs to have a certain period to the  
audio burps that make up the wave train. Each spark makes one  
wave train (set of waves of RF that last about a millisecond or so).  
For best operation and a clean sound to the spark, it is designed to  
die off at a certain rate. That rate is its logarithmic decrement.  
It basically affects the width of the emitted wave in terms of  
using up frequency spectrum --- i.e., the sharpness of tuning.  
The damping off of the wave from its maximum value to zero is  
a logarithmic function.

For a given spark discharge, the logarithmic decrement can be given

by the function:

$$M = (4.605 + X) / X$$

where M is the number of oscillations in a wave train wherein the amplitude drops off to a value of 1 percent of the original value at the start of the wave train. X is the Naperian logarithm of the ratio of amplitudes of two successive oscillations in the wave train.

A value of about 0.1 gives a good die off to the wave train and a clean sound to the emission, and keeps the wave from taking up all the usable spectrum.

Normal decrements ran from about 0.05 to 0.12.

If the value of decrement was say 0.2, then there would be about 24 oscillations to a wave train from one spark. Anything with a decrement of more than 0.2 would have a very broad wave and interfere with other stations.

If one plots the amplitude of a spark wave with a sensitive wavemeter (the Kolster Decremeter was basically a fancy sensitive tunable type calibrated output wavemeter), and the decrement is about 0.25, it has a range of amplitude that can be measured on frequencies of 550-650 meters if the wave is set at 600 meters. Hence that would be considered a broad wave, and probably cause interference to other sparkers.

The ideal spark wave came from a rig that was loosely coupled, had a good decrement of about 0.1 or less, and had a good musical note.

Another type of spark rig that seemed to be well liked was the 'impact' transmitter. This used a HV shock excitation of very short duration, and the tuned tanks rang with a clear clean note. Unfortunately, these were a West Coast phenomenon and were short lived, with the introduction of vacuum tube transmitters about 1922 or so in the marine environment. Sparks were used for a few years thereafter but mostly faded into oblivion by 1940, although Jeff out in Hawaii was saying that spark was legal as an emergency wave until about 1960 or so.

I still contend that IFF one takes care to properly shield and tune with good tuning tanks and modern designs a spark rig that it could be made a relatively clean and simple Morse rig (MCW/Class B waves only). Loose coupling and multiple tuned band pass tanks and quenched gaps would be a must to get the cleanest possible purest type of note. It might be fun to run up on 1750 meters if it were very carefully put together and run.

Nahhhhhh, weuns is jest a dreamin' t'aint we.....

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 19:47:45 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 18:19:51 -0500  
Message-Id: <m0s0zxv-0005MIC@wx81.tacom.army.mil>  
From: q@wx81.tacom.army.mil (Sean McCarthy)  
Subject: 75A-4 filter question...

Hi,

I have a 75A-4 with 3.1 and 6kc filters. I'd like to "complete" the rig and add a third. I've noticed 6 and 3.1's forsale but have never seen the .8 .

Is it a lost cause looking for?

will I pay thru the nose if I find one?

Are there any other choices, and if so, are they obtainable?  
(must be oem)

And finally, if you have one you want to sell, let me know.

Thanks,

Sean q@wx81.tacom.army.mil or smccarth@macomb.lib.mi.us

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 20:29:03 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 19:01:18 -0500  
Message-Id: <950417195656\_86477399@aol.com>  
From: JosephWP@aol.com  
Subject: Re: 75A-4 filter question...

Sean,

The 800 Cycle filters are out there. I sold one about a year ago so they are available though I think that they are increasingly hard to find. Don't give up - one will turn up. Just keep looking.

There are two other options, a 1.5 and 2.1 Kc filter. My 75A-4 is equipped with .8 / 2.1 / and 3.1 Kc filters. I really wish I had the 6 Kc filter instead of the 3.1 Kc unit. But, I have never seen the 2.1 filter until I found it in my unit. Don't think I have ever seen one advertised either. I have a spare 1.5 Kc filter (was used for RATT).

Joseph Pinner +  
Lafayette, LA  
KC5IJD

EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 21:09:10 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 19:41:58 -0500  
Message-Id: <9503177981.AA798161966@ccmgate.mti.com>  
From: TLeonard@ccmgate.mti.com (Leonard, Tim)  
Subject: Re: 75A-4 filter question...

Hi Sean,

When I acquired my 75A4, it came with a total of 5 filters, one of them being a 500 hz cw filter. Thus, it appears that a total of 6 were available:

500, 800, 1.5khz, 2.1khz, 3.1khz, and 6 khz. I would try for the 500 hz if you are into cw as it is narrow enough to make cw enjoyable (single sig reception and all of that) but wide enough to make tuning across the cw band bearable (unlike the 75s3 200 hz filter).

Tim AA6DQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 21:46:37 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 20:18:56 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9504172002.A29650-0100000@ozarks>  
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>  
Subject: Re: 75A-4 filter question...

On Mon, 17 Apr 1995, Sean McCarthy wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I have a 75A-4 with 3.1 and 6kc filters. I'd like to "complete" the  
> rig and add a third. I've noticed 6 and 3.1's for sale but have never  
> seen the .8 .  
> Is it a lost cause looking for?  
> will I pay thru the nose if I find one?  
> Are there any other choices, and if so, are they obtainable?  
> (must be oem)  
> And finally, if you have one you want to sell, let me know.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Sean q@wx81.tacom.army.mil or smccarth@macomb.lib.mi.us  
>

The 800 cycle was the third choice of only three for a long time. Later

Collins produced the 500 cycle and 1.4 (or was it 1.8?..had one but don't remember.)

Yes you will will pay for it dearly. I need another one myself for a McKay Marine 1031C receiver I restored. They along with many others chose to use Collins filters rather than engineer their own.

The only alternative that I know of is through International Radio (formerly Fox Tango) which makes a 200 cycle replacement for the S Line receivers and it can be mounted in an adaptor or hard wired into an A4. It is one tremendous filter.

I guess I should mention the AM filter Collins offered. I always forget that thing...broad as a barn. Even though I did use my first 75A4 on AM quite a bit I preferred the 2.1 kc filter.

de K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...--

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 21:52:55 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 20:24:01 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9504172047.A29650-01000000@ozarks>  
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>  
Subject: Re: 75A-4 filter question...

On Mon, 17 Apr 1995 JosephWP@aol.com wrote:

> Sean,  
>  
> The 800 Cycle filters are out there. I sold one about a year ago so they are  
> available though I think that they are increasingly hard to find. Don't give  
> up - one will turn up. Just keep looking.  
>  
> There are two other options, a 1.5 and 2.1 Kc filter. My 75A-4 is equipped  
> with .8 / 2.1 / and 3.1 Kc filters. I really wish I had the 6 Kc filter  
> instead of the 3.1 Kc unit. But, I have never seen the 2.1 filter until I  
> found it in my unit. Don't think I have ever seen one advertised either. I  
> have a spare 1.5 Kc filter (was used for RATT).  
>  
> Joseph Pinner +  
> Lafayette, LA  
> KC5IJD  
> EMail: josephwp@aol.com  
>

Joe the 2.1 became standard equipment in the later 75A4s. I had to buy

it seperately for the first two receivers but after that they dropped the 3.1 into the options range and we got the 2.1.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 01:00:50 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 23:33:21 -0500  
Message-Id: <13924@sat.n5lyt.ampr.org>  
From: ki5sl@sat.n5lyt.ampr.org (Rick\_Blank)  
Subject: Re: 75A-4 filter question...

Private site: Amateur Radio Station KI5SL  
X-Mailer: PCElm 1.11  
Lines: 21

OK, I just went and looked at the four filters I have:

F455J31	3.1Khz
F455J15	1.5
f455J08	0.8

and one marked: freq: 454.88 KC  
B.W. .448 KC  
SER. 1475P

Also, I have another 75A-4 on the way so who knows, I may get that darn elusive 6 KC filter yet...If not, I'll have to make an R-390A's or a Fox Tango one work!  
--

Rick Blank, KI5SL  
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org  
2223 Blanco Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78212  
end

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 21:14:23 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 19:46:54 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504180041.SAA10691@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU>  
From: al511@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Robert Neece)  
Subject: 75A-4 mechanical filters

For the 75A-4, Collins offered at least the following mechanical filters:

- .5 kc. \*
- .8 kc. \*
- 1.5 kc.

2.1 kc. \*  
3.1 kc. \*  
4.0 kc.  
6.0 kc. \*  
35.0 kc. \*

-----  
\*I have this filter in my own, current setup.

--  
73 de Bob, K0KR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 19:17:04 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 17:01:25 -0500  
Message-Id: <"d0asK(K0000000000\*"@MHS>  
From: RICHARD\_HUMPHREY@HP5200.desk.hp.com  
Subject: RE: AC hum

I think they all hum. My HQ-100 hums just a little.

You need a high pass filter in the headphones to cut out the noise below 300 hz or so. HiFi headphones just make the problem worse.

You mention 60 hz hum. I assume you were speaking generically of any hum.

60 hz hum comes from heater to cathode leakage in a tube, coupling from the heater or other AC wiring, or radiation from the power transformer.

120 hz hum comes from inadequate filtering in the power supply.

Check the tubes if it really is 60 hz. Check the caps if it's 120 hz.

Not all hum is completely cureable. It may be builtin due to the design of the equipment. It takes careful design to eliminate all traces of hum. Sometimes the source is rather tricky. For instance, I can remove ALL the tubes, except the 5Y3 rectifier, from my HQ-100 and I can still hear hum from the speaker. I found this out when I noticed that the hum came on with the power switch. It didn't wait for the tubes to warm up. Tracing out the circuit showed a bypass cap across the output transformer primary which couples ripple on the B+ line into the speaker. It probably needs a new filter cap, but I can live with it as is, the hum is so low in level.  
Richard

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:33:21 1995

Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 07:06:35 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171152.GAA20568@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: AC HUM - How 2 get rid of it?

>>Where does the problem likely lurk, usually? Is it in a primary  
>>transformer in the AC line to tube voltage conversion process? Does it  
>>sometimes lie in the capacitors and rectifiers? I take it on theory that  
>>some component of AC is being transferred and NOT filtered out (should be  
>>a DC component, with no AC component, right?).

>>

>

>There can be many more contributions to AC hum than just the ripple on the  
B+ supplies.. some years ago I went to all sorts of trouble to get headphone  
audible hum out of an old set, to the point of rewiring filament and B+  
supplies with shielded leads, rearranging audio section grounds to the  
single-point ground, etc al. The end result was far more trouble than it  
was worth.

>

>Hum in the cans is pretty typical when you plug in headphones with extended  
frequency response into an old receiver that was generally designed around a  
300-3000 hz response. The simple and workable solution is a high pass  
filter in series with the cans to cut out the 120hz. My above-mentioned  
project was a 'hi-fi' AM/FM hollow state chassis (early one) so I was aiming  
at super-clean audio.

>

>A simple L-C filter will work, or any of the aftermarket audio filters will  
do a good job of hum removal on the way to the eardrums..

>

>73! - Mark, NE9G

>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 14:41:08 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 13:14:24 -0500  
Message-Id: <2F9292D2@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>  
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.ATTGIS.COM>  
Subject: RE: AC HUM - How 2 get rid of it?

>pepperb wrote:

..

>I picked up the Hammarlund HQ-170-A

..

>However, the hum (AC, 60 cycle?) in the audio is a bit irritating. Not  
>quite so obvious when a speaker is used (though there) but with  
>headphones it is patently obvious and could easily be wearing over a  
>period of time of listening (esp. copying CW).



Are you using modern "Hi-Fi" phones? I have observed this problem when mixing some good BAs with phones that were designed to reproduce the full audio spectrum. I usually stick to using old style communications headphones to avoid this.

Larry Kenan - K06SM

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 17:47:47 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 16:20:40 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171823.AA20759@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>  
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)  
Subject: Re: AC HUM - How 2 get rid of it?

>However, the hum (AC, 60 cycle?) in the audio is a bit irritating.

..

> In a perfect world, with wide parts availability, I  
>would yank and replace everthing that should smooth and rectify,

Perhaps the most useful test equipment here would be a fairly new, known-to-be-good filter cap (say 20 uF/450 volts), two clip leads, and your ears.

Just clip it into the circuit here and there, and listen to the sound.

--

Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899  
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)  
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov  
---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 23:35:38 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 22:05:20 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504180255.TAA13928@mailhost.primenet.com>  
From: markem@primenet.com (Mark Monninger)  
Subject: B-17 Radios

A while back there was a short thread about radios rooms and equipment on some of the WWII bombers. I didn't pay a lot of attention at the time so forgive me if this is old news.

At any rate, my step-dad, who flew B-17s out of England with the 91st Bomber Group, loaned me his copy of the B-17 Pilot's Manual. It has several pages of info on communications, comm equipment lists, etc. If there's still some interest, I can type in some of the radio-related info for the group. Or contact me off-line if there's some specific info you're interested in.

73... Mark AA7TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 06:12:38 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 04:45:52 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504162332.AA19988@internet1.lotus.com>  
From: Alan Richer <Alan\_Richer.LOTUS@crd.lotus.com>  
Subject: Counter input divider ideas wanted...

Greetings to the assemblage...

I, through great personal trial and effort have managed to bag a GenRad frequency counter in the DC to 32Mhz range. It's a great semi-glassFET gadget (can you say NIXIE tubes?). Rather than modify the counter ('cause I'm not sure the input circuitry would handle it well), I'd like to hang a divide-by-10 stage on the input.

With LSTTL or CMOS, this is easy, but we're talking RF here....any ideas?

I'm probably making this too hard...so, nu?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 14:48:47 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 13:22:03 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950417140526.5481B-100000@little-miami.iac.net>  
From: Bill Strangfeld <bstrang@iac.net>  
Subject: Re: CWIST FNFF Report o' Boatanchors Heard!

Bob's talk of wet cells reminds me that I have a couple of lead battery trays that once were used by the telephone company to keep batteries in. If anyone is running rigs on batteries and wants these, they are free, but pickup in Cincinnati or delivered at Dayton only. Seems a shame to send them to the recyclers.

73 Bill

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 18:30:18 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 12:36:52 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171728.NAA17779@cc01du.unity.ncsu.edu>  
From: rdkeys@unity.ncsu.edu

Subject: CWIST FNFF Report o' Boatanchors Heard!

>  
> Bob,  
>  
> I enjoyed \*finally\* being able to get a signal out for the Friday night  
> CWIST (It seemed like a pretty good crowd too).

FB Ed, we enjoyed your addition to the group.

The CWIST Friday Night Fist Function had a goodly group of BA fellows this week. There was Brian/VE3VAW with his HQ-170A, you, Dale/AD4YH with his SB-102 (he is a barnburner on CW and an OT coastie if I remember right), Jack/KR4JJ (don't know what he was running down there in Columbia, SC), Conard/WS4S with his Heath SB302/401 combo, and Red/AC4QX with his NCX-2 (I think it was). The skip was strange, because I could hear the locals on ground wave, but beyond that the skip seemed to be several hundred miles on the first hop.

I was running the ancient RMCA ET-8019A at about 150 watts input, and the old regenerative RAL as primary receiver. The Collins R-388 was acting as freq meter/monitor. TX Antenna was the 100 foot end fed wire up about 35 feet against a pair of 66 foot counterpoise wires laying on the ground. RX antenna for QSK was a 10 foot wire across the room (my lightning and local rag chewing antenna).

> I'm now using a Loading coil from a Texas Bug Catcher; the High Q and  
> low resistance seem to be helping (unless we just had good conditions).  
> (I'm the guy on the 4th floor of a 14 story high rise (with two other towers  
> also in the complex; 900 total units!). My antenna is 40 feet of wire run  
> horizontal, beating against the balcony railing, with the loading coil and  
> cap hat at the top (far end).

EEK! But, if it works, use it. Sounds like a fair Marconi to me.....

The farther away you can get the wire from any metal railings (even only if it is a foot or so off the end of a wooden stick or piece of plastic pipe) the better your signal will be.

Many's the time I snaked magnet wire out of various apartments to get something up to catch the ethers. Goodly grounds, counterpoises, and loading inductors help.

> Now that I established, I can get out, I may try firing up the ART-13.

That would be a fine bottle burner, for sure.

> The thing is configured to operate as originally intended from the dynamoter,

> control box etc. so I'll need a bank of batteries to supply 28 V. PLUS I'll  
> probalby work every TV in the condo complex. ART's are not popular in  
> populated areas.

I use 105 AH wet nicads (biggggggggie muthers) for running my dynamotor equipment. It works fine, and the batteries are now 15 years old and still running strong. I picked them up in surplus from a scrap yard that could not get rid of them to the lead recyclers. Each 1.2 volt wet cell weighs about 10 pounds and is about a foot high. I make up a wooden rack and strap them together in units of 5 cells (6 volts).

If you can find them, get golf cart batteries or deep cycle batteries floated across a well filtered rectifier/battery charger.

Alternatively, if you have room try diesel truck batteries. HEAVY but pretty good and fairly common around truck yards.

The ideal batteries if you can find them are Edison cells out of forklift trucks or railcars, but they are getting hard to find these days. They also will last 50 years or more, if well taken care of. I just missed a set about 5 years ago, that were barely broken in at age 25 or so.

> I'd have a better chance of keeping the neighborhood peacefull if I could  
> find my TCS-12 xmtr; it seems to have disappeared in the move ( a few years  
> back, along with a lot of other Boatanchor stuff).

The TCS is fine gear. Dave Stinson/AB5S checked in from Nevada a couple of weeks back on his.

> I need a little more code speed to play with you guys, and get more familiar  
> with your procedure, that's the first time I checked into a CW net.

It will come with time.....

I run a very informal type of ``net'', that is mostly a round table but directed like a net. Only if it gets real crowded will I run it more formally. Much more fun informally.

> You slowed down enough for me to have solid copy, but several folks  
> blew me away (I still have to write it down as I copy otherwise it's all  
> jumbled in my head).

No sweat! The CWIST on 3702R5 is for slow speed folks and those who are trying to get back up to snuff on CW. To date, most have been around for a while as BA folks, so are usually fair to mittlin' on CW. But, one of the express aims of the CWIST is to help elmer any slower folk up to whatever they can muster, and that is as much fun as anything

else. After all, we all started down in the bilgewater on CW, and the reality is that there are not that many around who've passed muster for bridge duty, yet --- but we all need to keep the fingers well talced and the ears perky so that we can attain or work toward that grand and exalted rating of 01' CW Fart! Once there, we can rate a watch in the radio room up by the bridge, for sure.

If anyone wants to chime in QRQ with the OT ops, they are welcome to join in any evening 10pmEST/3525+QRM for work at speed. Those fellas tend to run in the 30's wpm on average, for armchair mill copy. 01' navy sub op Neal/N4HAF and navy chops Jack/WOUCCE will run yer socks off if you want. Those fellas are real rattle 'n banger types for sure. I have a lot of fun pushing the bug to its limits, but keying the ancient 50 year old relay driven rigs at 50wpm with a bug is a somewhat taxing task.

All ops should slow to the speed of the slowest op in ANY net or round table. The fellows that were trucking along at high-speed-henrietta tilt are OT military style ops that I usually work at 10pm est on 3525 for some fun high speed QRQ runs at 30-50 wpm. Guess they cudn't git their durn rigs turnd dwn far enuff.....(:+{}.....! You know, these are the guys that can sip coffee, read a book, and talk to you at the same time, whilst running the incoming copy on the mill..... (:+{}.....

> I was operating break in mode - so when I heard stations identifying or  
> calling CW, I stopped sending so you/they could copy; is this correct  
> procedure?

Break-in mode is the best, but once checked in, standard operating procedure is to let net control direct the talk to each person in order. Once that person has his turn at the stump, he can take it and run as long as his wind holds out. The net control will break in if he needs to cut him short or occasionally add some comments.

What I try to do, informally, is to allow people to check in by making repeated CWIST? calls during the first few minutes, and then acknowledging the folks as they check in, and then once the checkins are noted, list who is there, and then start a round of chit/chat. At the end of a round I will call CWIST? again to see if any more want to join in and add them to the top of the list, and go a second round, and maybe a third round or what the time will permit. Normally a net runs for an hour, but since we are not a formal net, I let it run until folks get tired or the band dies out, or whatever.

>  
>  
> Regards,  
>  
>

> Ed Doc  
> K3LPE  
>  
>

Do join in again, ED and all the other Boatanchorites on the CWIST  
Friday Night Fist Function.

Likewise, 73 SEE U DE NA4G/Bob

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 23:29:42 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 22:00:59 -0500  
Message-Id: <950417184721.2776@ESHOP.UOREGON.EDU>  
From: WA6JYJ@ESHOP.UOREGON.EDU (Larry Laitinen WA6JYJ/AAR0ET)  
Subject: RE: ELECTRIC RADIO BACK ISSUES

Beware: The ER back issue set is for the first five years, up until  
about April or so of 1994. The rest from April (or so) to present cost  
extra! I know this because I just went through this scenario!

Larry, WA6JYJ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 13:33:33 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 12:06:44 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9504170901.A5460-01000000@netcom7>  
From: "Hal R. Waite" <halwaite@netcom.com>  
Subject: Fair Price for the B&W 5100B

A friend of mine wants to engineer a swap for my B&W 5100B, which is  
working and in near mint condition. Perhaps someone on the net can  
suggest a fair market price for this unit.

BTW, a price of \$400 for the Hallicrafters SX-115 is a thing of the past.

Thanks in advance. Hal K4GFI/7 halwaite@netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 18:16:37 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 16:47:42 -0500  
Message-Id: <950417213112\_71333.144\_DHQ57-2@CompuServe.COM>  
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Free Stuff

FREE TO GOOD HOME (you pay shipping)

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.  
412-234-8819 (weekdays, EST or leave a message anytime).

71333.144@compuserve.com

The Audio Tape Recorder Directory, 1959-1960, fair, cover rough.  
Rohn Tower Catalog, 1980. Useful reference for buying used towers.  
Heath Company "Time Payment Book" cover only. IBM punch-card style.  
Audels "Trade Books for Mechanics" catalog. About 1950. As-new.  
RCA Institutes catalog. 1958. In original mailer.  
NRI "How To Reach The Top Jobs In TV" course catalog and sales brochure.  
In original mailer.  
Newark 1979 catalog.  
Sears Silvertone Owner's Manual with the following catchy title: "10 tube Superheterodyne With Push-Button Tuning, Recorder and Automatic Record Changer." No model number is given. In original mailing envelope dated February 22, 1945.  
Sylvania TV/FM Sweep Signal Generator Type 500 original manual  
Sylvania TV Marker Generator Type 501 original manual  
Sams Modular Hi-Fi Service Manual Volume 12 (1971)  
Sams Photofact Annual Indexes. Each index covers all Sams photofacts, and all Sams publications from photofact #1 in 1946 through the year of the index.  
Years Available: 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980  
Alliance Tenna-Rotor Service Manuals:  
1-- Covers T-10, U-83, K-22, T-12, U-98, T-20, U-100, T-95, C-225  
2-- Covers ATR, DIR, HIR, F-4, T-10, U-83, K-22, T-12, U-98  
Instruction book for Sears Silvertone 682 radio/phonograph. As-new.  
Knight-kit 5 tube AM radio assembly manual. As-new.  
Tektronix: These items are pictured and described in Stan Griffiths' excellent book SELECTING AND RESTORING A CLASSIC:  
81 plug-in (lets letter-series plug-ins work on 58x 'scopes) w/manual  
TU-7 plug-in test fixture for 53x, 54x 'scopes. Looks good, unworking  
Meissner signal shifter case only. Decent shape, no mods. No chassis or front panel.  
National NC-100 cabinet. This is for the 100-size radios (with the PW dial). No holes of any kind, factory or mods, even on the front panel (don't ask me to explain it either...weird). No bottom panel. Perfect for someone with a 100 with holes in the front panel. Paint has rust and flakey spots.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 12:26:11 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 10:59:19 -0500  
Message-Id: <9503177981.AA798133679@CCGATE.HAC.COM>  
From: jcreid@CCGATE.HAC.COM  
Subject: Heath manuals

Since one of the latest threads has been about test equipment, I thought I'd make a request for manuals for some of the Heath stuff I have. All the stuff works, but I just wanna be prepared for when it doesn't. Thanks for any help the group can offer. The usual disclaimers apply(postage, copying costs, etc.)

AG-9A Audio generator  
SG-8 RF signal generator  
TS-4A TV sweep generator  
HD-1250 Grid dip meter  
IO-101 Vectorscope

-Jim

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 06:50:27 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 05:23:43 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504162023.aa11639@lunatix.lex.ky.us>  
From: "Greg Parsons A.K.A. Rat" <gparsons@lunatix.lex.ky.us>  
Subject: Hello!

Hello,

I am new to the group, and I need a little help<g>. I am in need of a manual or a wiring diagram for a Knight TR-106, I have looked everywhere that I can think, called every manual place in the states I can find the number to, and no luck as of yet. As a side note, my call is KE4000, I recived my no-code last july, and as of right now I have passed my 4-b and I am am working on my 1-c for my extra, I have been lurking around for the last week or so, and I just wanted you to know that not all of us "youngens" play the solidstate only game, (I still remember setting with my dad and grandfather lissening to a S-38 Halicrafters late at night) Other than that hello to everyone on the list.

73,  
KE4000  
Greg

--

On a clear night when the wind is from the west, you can smell America burning brite upon the night.

DoD #0862 Rat NRA Life Member Home Brewer from Hell(tm)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 00:42:23 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 23:14:55 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504180411.VAA29191@ix2.ix.netcom.com>  
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)  
Subject: Import tubes (was NOS US vs. Import 811A's)

I have a simple question: what is so tricky about 50 year old technology that the current tube manufacturing countries can't produce tubes that make the original specs? Is it economic corner-cutting, shoddy quality control, or what? (I'm basing my premise on the never-ending flow of criticism I hear regarding import tubes.) I've



been curious about this for years...

73,  
Mike, KK6GM

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 12:49:46 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 11:23:03 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171614.AA05130@ihurry.ih.att.com>  
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com  
Subject: re Knight TR-106

I believe you mean the 6-meter mobile/base xcvr. I had one, including VFO and mounting plate, that I built in '67 and used to work all over Boston. A few years ago I blew the dust off, took it to a ham club meeting, and sold it for \$12 or something dumb. Sould've pulled all the tubes and 'lytic caps and junked it, but just hate to do that to a working rig.

I quit 6M after the SSB types took over. No idea what goes on up there today -- maybe NBFM like 2M? I did work from Pittsburgh to OKlahoma once during a band opening, not bad for 15 watts and a Squalo antenna on a card table next to the rig.

Anyway, I THINK I still have the manuals for the beast. I so, I'll mail 'em to you gratis. --mike knudsen, W9NRD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 02:02:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 00:35:10 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950418152920.1299C-100000@eram.esi.com.au>  
From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>  
Subject: Re: Looking for receivers

On Sat, 15 Apr 1995, paul Veltman wrote:

> I would someday like to get my hands on a couple of old WWII era  
> receivers, an ARR-5 and an ARR-7. I haven't seen any of these in  
> years. Anybody have a clue?

Dunno about the ARR-5, but you don't mean the Kingsley AR-7, do you?  
It's an old Aussie rig...

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 10:20:05 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 08:53:20 -0500

Message-Id: <9504171346.AA11336@gvlf4-a>  
From: edd@VFL.Paramax.COM  
Subject: Re: Morse For Scouts

Code requirements for Scouts:

>> For that matter, I don't really remember having to learn Morse code for my  
>> First Class badge in Boy Scouts either, was that a requirement circa 1949? I  
>> do remember some nonsense with semaphore flags. When was the last time that  
>> you were able to use that knowledge? I thought the Morse requirement was for  
>> the Communications merit badge.

> You're right, Larry. The only requirement for any class of Scout was a  
> certain number of merit badges (there may have been some required and some  
> elective though).

It's been a very long time, I think knowing 'The Code' use to be a  
requirement for 1st Class Scout. As a scout, I use to 'try' to teach the  
code to other scouts (in the mid to late 50ies). (I got my license while  
I was a scout at age 13 or thereabouts).

I remember the scout master telling me to lighten up on the code test - he  
didn't see it as a reasonable requirement in these 'modern times'.

I remember Merit badges being needed for classes above 1st Class: Star,???,  
and Eagle. (But my memory is fading along with everything else).

Ed Doc  
K3LPE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:02:23 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:35:38 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171129.GAA19665@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: Much thanx for TR4 help!

Re: TR-4 fixin's..

> The most useful troubleshooting tool turned out to be

>the ICOM 720 acting as a receiver on 9 MHz, allowing me to listen in to each  
>IF stage, allowing me to track down a bad connection in one of the IF trans-  
>formers. Anyway, thanks again for all the help! 73 Dave WB0GAZ

Hehe.. one of my most useful pieces of test gear in the shack is my TS-430S,  
which serves as a general purpose RF generator from .1 to 30 Mhz  
(transverter low level outputs are particularly handy) and as a selective  
voltmeter (using the scan function yeilds a decent sweep genenerator).  
Anywayz.. congrats on getting your tranceiver on the air! Nothing like the  
qso's made with a bargain rig after umpteen hours of labor invested to make  
this BA restoral slice of our hobby worthwhile!

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 12:33:40 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 09:32:22 -0500  
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950417091647.grant@NQ5T>  
From: gyoungma@gtetel.com  
Subject: NOS US vs. Import 811A's

I'm replacing 811A modulator tubes in a Globe King 500C. Anyone know if there is  
any reason to pay a premium  
price for NOS RCA 811A's vs. using a set of premium RF Parts imports at about 1/2  
the price? I've heard some  
discussion somewhere about the imports not giving as good audio quality as the US  
tubes.

Thanks.. Grant/NQ5T

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 23:20:14 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 21:52:14 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504180246.VAA16548@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: NOS US vs. Import 811A's

>I'm replacing 811A modulator tubes in a Globe King 500C. Anyone know if  
there is any reason to pay a premium  
>price for NOS RCA 811A's vs. using a set of premium RF Parts imports at  
about 1/2 the price? I've heard some

I can't speak for the 811A's, but I did order a set of "Premium" RF Parts  
572B's for my Bandit 2000B. I asked for a spec sheet and I'm glad I did.  
While the tubes look just as rugged as the old Cetron 572B/T-160L's used in  
the 60's , the spec sheets rate them at a maximum plate voltage of 1500-1750  
volts. Well under the original 572B range. I'm just lucky that my Bandit  
has switch-selectable plate transformer taps. They are also NOT rated at

160 watts dissipation, but four of them run rather nicely at 1900V/450ma plate input with about 700 watts output (no, that isn't too-high efficiency, it's the chunk of 120 watts of drive feeding through..grounded grid amp) in class B.

As the tubes suffice (and I seldom run QRO, the amp was cheap and invited a full refurb), I probably would not go overboard and spend four times the bucks for NOS 572B's that might not have that much useful life or a guarantee with them anyways..

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:16:31 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:49:46 -0500  
Message-Id: <950417073419\_85711913@aol.com>  
From: KD0HG@aol.com  
Subject: Old Mica Capacitors AND TV CRTs

While researching color codes for old postage stamp mica capacitors in the 1951 "West Coast" radio handbook I found the following bit of esoterica: If the capacitor's case is brown, then it is likely a 500 V, standard mica. If the capacitor's case is red, then it is a higher stability SILVER mica. Didn't realize before case color might have been significant other than possibly a manufacturer's option... Item #2) Can anyone advise me of a source of NOS or rebuilt picture tubes for early 50s TV sets? thanks>> <bill>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 10:36:37 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 09:09:50 -0500  
Message-Id: <"Macintosh \*/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>  
From: Scott\_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com  
Subject: RE>Re- When all the tubes

RE>Re: When all the tubes are gone. 4/17/95  
I here all of this talk of 211's in audio. Who really uses those low bias beasts for Hi-Fi? The 845 I can see, but not the 211. BTW I don't see audiophiles as being any geekier than hams. Take a look around you at the next fest. All of us enthusiasts have that tendency.  
73, Scott (A BA lover and tube audio lover-double geek?)

Shopkeeper: "Ah, so. Your VT4C/211's are too weak for use below 20 meters - ah, I mean kiloHertz. I'll just replace them with these VV30B's at \$380 each, and she'll be right again. Oh, and there's just a little corrosion on these four ought speaker terminals. A

little Deoxit will fix that, at \$50 per shot."

Person wmmtes: "Wow, that sounds much better - almost as if the improvement was proportional to the amount of money I paid for it."

Person leaves, shopkeeper adds VT4C's to pile of spares to be sold to hams at reasonable prices.

Please excuse the waste of bandwidth, I really shouldn't be allowed near a keyboard while in this state.

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 17:59:38 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 16:31:35 -0500  
Message-Id: <m0s0yKu-000uHoC@twisto.eng.hou.compaq.com>  
From: Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com  
Subject: re: Re: AC HUM - How 2 get rid of it?

> "just clip it here and there and use your ears..."

Just BEWARE if you use this test method to short out the charge on the cap between each test. If you get the cap on B+ and charged up to 300 v then put it on a grid, you could generate a VERY LOUD thump and maybe damage something. A large filter cap can hold a LOT of energy at 250-300 volts!

In solid state junque this is deadly to lotsa circuits, Toobz are much more forgiving. Usually it's your ears in the headphones that take the hit.

dave

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 10:28:47 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 09:01:40 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950417084243.7761A-100000@ncrsun1>  
From: Kevin Anderson <anderson@ncrsun1.ncr.usace.army.mil>  
Subject: song

Yesterday (Sunday), a cloudy day, while out on an afternoon walk, this song (or a version of it) came into my head and has been rolling around. Can't seem to get rid of it. The anthem we may be singing in 30 years. It is not an "up beat"

song by any means. I guess I need a long vacation....

Words sung to the tune of Dylan's (?) "Where have all..."  
(the real title escapes me right now; forgive me if I have  
the attribution also wrong, as I have Peter, Paul & Mary images  
of who I last saw sing it).  
-----

Where have all our radios gone?

Gone from memory.

Where have all our radios gone?

Gone far away.

Where have all our radios gone?

Gone every one of them.

Oh when will they ever return,

Oh when will they return?

Where have all the Philcos gone?

Gone to museums.

Where have all the Hallis gone?

Gone far away.

Where have all the Collins gone?

Gone to fight their last war.

Oh when will they ever return,

Oh when will they return?

Where have all the glow tubes gone?

Gone to landfills.

Where have all the glow tubes gone?

Gone far away.

Where have all the glow tubes gone?

Gone ever' last one.

Oh when will they ever return,

Oh when will they return?

Where has all Morse gone?

Gone all digital.

Where has all AM gone?

Gone far away.

Where has all shortwave gone?

Gone to satellite.

Oh when will they ever return,

Oh when will they return?

Where has ham radio gone?

Gone to telephone.

Where have all the newbies gone?

Gone to play PacMan.

Where have all the elmers gone?  
Gone SK all of them.  
Oh when will they ever return,  
Oh when will they return?

Where has all the mystery gone?  
Gone virtual reality.  
Where has all the excitement gone?  
Gone far away.  
Where has all the wonder gone?  
Gone to solid state.  
Oh when will they return,  
Oh when will they return?

Where have all our radios gone?  
Gone from memory.  
Where have all our radios gone?  
Gone far away.  
Where have all our radios gone?  
Gone every one of them.  
Oh when will they ever return,  
Oh when will they return?

-----  
Cheers/73.      kevin, kb9iua

\* \* \* \* \*  
Kevin L. Anderson, CENCR-PD-W, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Rock Island District Office, Planning Div.-Waterway Systems  
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, USA    phone:(309) 794-5586  
e-mail: anderson@ncrsun1.ncr.usace.army.mil  
\* \* \* \* \*  
Opinions expressed here are my own and do not represent the  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Federal Government.

From boatanchors@theporch.com    Mon Apr 17 17:55:02 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 16:27:21 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171842.LAA09826@mailhost.primenet.com>  
From: nx7u@primenet.com (Scott Townley)  
Subject: Stoddart Elex Info?

This is only peripherally BA related (they use tubes!), but:

Does anyone on the list have any comprehensive information on the line of  
Stoddard Field Intensity Meters? They made a whole slew of model numbers,  
etc., covering basically the entire RF spectrum. Many were militarized and  
re-nomenclatured in mil-terms.

If anyone knows the mil-commercial cross-reference, the specifications/capabilities of any of the Stoddard line (a copy of an old catalog would be particularly valuable!), or any other info, I'd greatly appreciate a direct reply.

And my apologies if I'm too far in left field.  
Scott nx7u@primenet.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 19:10:28 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 17:42:52 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950417153734.27281A-100000@crl12.crl.com>  
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>  
Subject: Re: Stoddard Elex Info?

I have a NM-20A ... What are you needing... I just got mine working this past month. de stan ak0b e-mail via randyw@crl.com

On Mon, 17 Apr 1995, Scott Townley wrote:

> This is only peripherally BA related (they use tubes!), but:  
>  
> Does anyone on the list have any comprehensive information on the line of  
> Stoddard Field Intensity Meters? They made a whole slew of model numbers,  
> etc., covering basically the entire RF spectrum. Many were militarized and  
> re-nomenclatured in mil-terms.  
>  
> If anyone knows the mil-commercial cross-reference, the  
> specifications/capabilities of any of the Stoddard line (a copy of an old  
> catalog would be particularly valuable!), or any other info, I'd greatly  
> appreciate a direct reply.  
>  
> And my apologies if I'm too far in left field.  
> Scott nx7u@primenet.com  
>  
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 18:03:47 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 16:35:55 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171900.AA21555@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>  
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)  
Subject: Re: Svetlana

> Svetlana,  
> George Badger, President of Svetlana,  
>-----



>

>how does one get in touch with George Badger ?

Svetlana Electron Devices  
8200 S. Memorial Parkway  
Huntsville AL 35802

800-239-6900  
205-880-8020  
205-880-8077 Fax

--

Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899  
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)  
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov  
---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 05:17:46 1995  
Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 03:50:16 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504180948.AA09717@vampire>  
From: eiser <eisner@vampire.lavielle.com>  
Subject: SW Receiver Jennen 9R95

Hi,  
I found a Jennen 9R59 (tubes: 1x5Y3, 1x 6AQ6, 2x6AV6, 3x6BA6,  
2x6BE6) at a flea market, the RF stage is not working. As far as  
I know the receiver has been offered as a do-it-yourself kit, so  
the handbook would help me. Does anyone have a copy?  
My QTH is:  
Hubert Eisner  
Hopfenmarkt 28  
D-20457 Hamburg  
Germany  
and my e-mail addresses are  
Internet: eisner@lavielle.com  
CIS: 100137,1460  
Thanks: Herbie Eisner

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 03:46:30 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 02:19:23 -0500  
Message-Id: <13725@sat.n5lyt.ampr.org>  
From: ki5sl@sat.n5lyt.ampr.org (Rick\_Blank)  
Subject: Re: SX-117 price

Private site: Amateur Radio Station KI5SL  
X-Mailer: PCElm 1.11  
Lines: 81

In message <Pine.3.89.9504161518.A28604-0100000@netcom6> halwaite@netcom.com writes:

>

stuff deleted

>

> In my fondness for Hallicrafters, I recently picked up a very nice copy  
> of the Hurricane SR-2000, a desktop rig not much bigger than the KWM-2  
> (ignoring the separate but not-too-large power supply) that puts out an  
> honest 1000 watts from a pair of 8122's. The cabinet does suffer from  
> the miserable gray paint of that period but the front panel and interior  
> are near perfect. Readout is just like the Collins and stability is  
> excellent. I was pleasantly surprised by the high quality of this rig,  
> produced as it was during Hallicrafter's twilight years.

>

> If you buy the right Hallicrafters equipment, you will have an excellent  
> unit at a reasonable price. I avoid Collins, which I used extensively in  
> the 50's and 60's as a kind of reverse snobbery!

>

> Hal K4GFI/7 in Las Vegas halwaite@netcom.com A Collins-free environment.

>

>

>

I also have one of the last of the "real" Hallicrafters, the SR-400A, Cyclone III, and it's a pretty neat old rig, probably not in the same league with the Collins and their excellent filters, but the notch filter helps a bit.

The miserable grey paint is replicated fairly well by Krylon's Soft Shades grey spray, it is so close to the original color that sample to sample variations would have a greater color difference than the difference between my resprayed SR-400A and the all original SR-150 sitting next to it. The paint dries to a semi-gloss finish and looks real nice compared to a scratched up, ugly case.

The Hurricane and Cyclone were the some of the last high powered rigs around. National had the NCX-1000 which I understand was a handgrenade and had multiple problems (1kw input from 1-8122) and I understand there are still some new ones around (they crop up in the Yellow Sheets every now and then) and did not sell

well, any more info out there? National also had the NCX-500 which was comparable in power to the Cyclone, but, it was not half the rig the Cyclone was IMHO.

I laid in a stock of 6KD6 Raytheon Green Stripe tubes for the Cyclone III so that the finals will always have full power.

I feel like the Cyclone's power supply is also stressed fairly highly, the iron in the PS-500-AC is no heavier than that which is used in the PS-150-AC supply for the SR-150. (No, I haven't put them on a scale, but just lifting them it seems real close.) I need to re-capacitor mine and will probably go up in value and voltage a bit to give a little more headroom.

Production of the Hurricane ended before the SR-400A did and the Hurricane never had the notch filter. I do believe it had the narrow selectivity position for CW like the 400A had, but am also not sure about the noise blanker. The SR400A's noise blanker is one of the best I've ever used and actually has taken out line noise that a multitude of more modern rigs failed to do.

My favorite Boatanchor rigs to run on sideband, though, are still the C-line, the passband tuning and the notch filter move, in my opinion, the Drake's actually ahead of the S-line...I just gotta get some room in this shack to bring the KWS-1 and 75A-4 and compare them to the Drakes. I haven't used the A-4 in a couple of years, so, it's time!

--

Rick Blank, KI5SL  
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org  
2223 Blanco Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78212  
end

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 07:46:48 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:20:03 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9504170511.A387-01000000@mm1001.theporch.com>  
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: SX-117 price

About \$300-\$350 overpriced. Would be worth \$100-\$150. I have seen sx-117,ht-44 pairs in mint cond recently go for \$250.00

Kevin J Pease  
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.  
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 07:52:28 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:25:43 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9504170551.B387-01000000@mm1001.theporch.com>  
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: SX-117 price

Maybe it is a misprint could be a sx-115 which is a rare unit that has been known to go for \$400.00

Kevin J Pease  
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.  
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:10:37 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:43:50 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171133.GAA19897@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: SX-117 price

>I just saw an ad over on compuserve for a SX-117 (which he describes as a  
>rare unit) for \$ 450. It is described as having a mint front panel and  
>interior. The cabinet has been professionally repainted.  
>  
>What do you all think of this price??? (I am not thinking of buying it, but

To me, this is in the arena of the \$900 75A4's that don't even work. Way overpriced. I've seen the 117's and the companion HT-44 transmitters at several fests in recent years in the \$150 each range. If the performance of the 117 were a little better, it might be worth more. But a \$300 surcharge for an alignment and repaint/labeling job seems steep.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 09:11:40 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 07:44:56 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171238.AA214297@rs2.ccd.harris.com>  
From: dsnowden@ccd.harris.com (Doug Snowden)  
Subject: SX-117 Price

I bought an SX-117 about 6 months ago from Ray Sumperl. I paid \$80.00 for it. It was in excellent physical and electrical condition. The only reason I bought it was because I wanted to duplicate my novice station of the early sixtys. I ended up selling it back to him for the same price.

I am really started getting turned off from boatanchors now days what with all the ridiculous prices I see on this stuff. I buy it to restore and to play with, not to make a living selling it. Collins stuff is just about out of the question now. \$1000 for a 75A4 ?????

73 Doug, N4IJ dsnowden@ccd.harris.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 12:57:18 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 11:30:33 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171621.AA05187@ihurry.ih.att.com>  
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com  
Subject: SX-25 questions

What do y'all think of this Hallicrafters BA rcvr? I think it's pretty good for the time, with 2 RF stages and 2 or 3 selectivity settings. It has a round main dial, HQ-sorta-like BS dial (ham bands), and both "3" and "3B" bands on the bandswitch (I think they just select different BS tuning padders for 20M vs 40M).

Mine was sorta working when I got it, worked better after some informal alignment, but just squealed the last time I plugged it in ('lytics dried out?). Also a previous repairer strong the BS dial such that it reads backwards!

I'd just like to know what folks think of this set before I put a lot of time or money into fixing it up. The 129X under it works a LOT better, as does the R390A in the other room, so I don't "need" it, as if that mattered :-)  
It does have a neat period look to it.

Tnx, mike k W9NRD (but no NRD gear at my QTH)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:24:23 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:57:35 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171142.GAA20188@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: SX117 Pricing, continued

> But, if I were looking for  
>prime Hallicrafters, I'd hold out for an SX-115, a truly high-end  
>example of what Hallicrafters was doing in those days. The SX-117  
>series was a second-tier offering targeted at people who could not  
>afford the SX-115 and HT-32B combo.  
>

I think the HT-37 and SX-111 (mine still are warm from this mornings CW sessions!) were the official 'low cost' issue of the HT32B and SX/101A (later the 115). Similar circuitry, cheaper cabinet, simpler mechanicals, less features.

I believe Hallicrafters came out with the SR-160 tri-bander and SR-150 5-band SSB/CW transceivers prior to the HT44/SX117 combo? They all were of the newer 'S-line clone' appearance. Hallicrafters continued this line through the Cyclone 500 and Hurricane 2000 transceivers. I'd definitely consider the HT-32B and SX-115 in a different class entirely (and would love to own them!)

73! - Mark, NE9G

.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 14:24:58 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 12:58:08 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171751.LAA15140@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU>  
From: al511@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Robert Neece)  
Subject: Re: SX117 Pricing, continued

[in response to the comments of NE9G re the SX-117, I wrote:]

Hello Mark,

You write to boatanchors:

>I think the HT-37 and SX-111 (mine still are warm from this mornings CW  
>sessions!) were the official 'low cost' issue of the HT32B and SX/101A  
>(later the 115).

It just depends upon what year one is using as his point of reference!

>Similar circuitry, cheaper cabinet, simpler mechanicals,  
>less features.

Generally correct. Don't you consider it to be just a bit of a stretch, though, to liken the HT-37 circuitry to that of the HT-32B? The 37 uses the phasing method of SSB generation does it not? The 32B had magnificent crystal-filter SSB generation with beam-deflection modulation. Even today, that circuitry is tough to beat. Look at your 37 schematic to see whether there is a set of SSB crystal filters in the IF. I do not believe there is. At any rate, the spectral purity of the 32B on SSB was in a different (and superior) class to the 37. The HT-37, though, sounded great on CW.

As a former HT-32B owner, perhaps my snobbery is showing. I'm glad that you are using your Hallicrafters gear on the air these days.

--

q73 de Bob, K0KR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 23:43:02 1995

Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 22:13:45 -0500

Message-Id: <199504180303.WAA18207@quake.xnet.com>

From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)

Subject: Re: SX117 Pricing, continued

:

>

>>I think the HT-37 and SX-111 (mine still are warm from this mornings CW  
>>sessions!) were the official 'low cost' issue of the HT32B and SX/101A  
>>(later the 115).

>

>>Similar circuitry, cheaper cabinet, simpler mechanicals,  
>>less features.

>

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>though, to liken the HT-37 circuitry to that of the HT-32B? The 37 uses  
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>crystal-filter SSB generation with beam-deflection modulation.  
>Even today, that circuitry is tough to beat. Look at your 37  
>schematic to see whether there is a set of SSB crystal filters in  
>the IF. I do not believe there is. At any rate, the spectral  
>purity of the 32B on SSB was in a different (and superior) class  
>to the 37. The HT-37, though, sounded great on CW.

>

You are correct in the filter vs. phasing method of SSB generation used in these rigs.. but if you lift the lid on the '32 series (and unscrew the top half of the cab on the '37), the mechanical layout of things is very similar, what with the power supply in one corner, the VFO up front in the other corner, a pair of 6146's as the PA, etc.

I will have to differ with you regarding the 'spectral purity' issue a tad. My '37 puts out very clean audio, with a wider bandwidth and less time delay distortion that would be caused by sharp crystal filter skirts. The bandwidth is noticeably wider (400-3300hz at 6db down), which, I think, is why I receive many 'good audio' reports (from folks with receivers with wide enough bandwidth IF's to hear the difference!). The much mentioned problem with carrier suppression stability has not been a problem here, I can maintain 45-50 db without adjustment. But they do put the null controls on the front panel just in case <grin>.

I will definitely lose out in an opposite-sideband suppression contest, though. 30-40 db max depending on the modulation frequency.. but I'm in my usual situation of only coming across mid-line gear. If I ever do find an affordable HT-32A or B and a clean SX101A (my favorite receiver of all time when it comes to 'front panel character'), I'll find some way to grab 'em!

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 12:17:46 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 10:51:00 -0500  
Message-Id: <9503177981.AA798133426@CCGATE.HAC.COM>  
From: jcreid@CCGATE.HAC.COM  
Subject: TR-20 Manual

While searching for some stuff over the weekend, I came across a manual for a Radio Industries(i.e. Hallicrafters) TR-20 transceiver. It's available for the cost of postage to the first requester I get. Interesting note on the radio: All the labeling on the front panel is in English and Vietnamese.

-Jim

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 11:21:13 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 09:54:28 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171448.KAA06591@shiva.shiva.com>  
From: John Shriver <jas@shiva.com>  
Subject: Re: Tube rebuilders

The going price today for CRT filament replacement is apparently \$500. That's more than a NOS 833A or 100TH would cost, I suspect.

However, for the CRT's in the FAA's Radar, I suspect it's a damn fine deal, and they probably are a customer! (On the other hand, the DoD probably buys new spare CRT's every 10 years, and then sells the old unused spare CRT's at auction. They might go bad, after all!)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 14:33:11 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 13:06:21 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504171753.AA15775@altair.krl.caltech.edu>  
From: "Tim Shoppa" <shoppa@krl.caltech.edu>  
Subject: Re: Tube rebuilders (was: NEW TUBES)

> My lovely 833A and 100TH laying here with broken filaments makes me wonder  
> if it's economically feasible/practical or possible to have new filaments  
> installed? I remember in "the good old days" when the CRT in the teevee got



> dim, there were folks who, for a reasonable price, would put a new filament  
> in. When the selling prices of teevees got to the point where it was  
> cheaper to buy a new teevee, than it was to repair and align the CRT, most  
> of the rebuilders went away. Even today though, I've been told that Eimac  
> will rebuild some of their more expensive transmitting tubes.  
>  
> 73 de Jack

You may not have to go through the trouble of paying someone else to do this,  
\*if\* the filament is broken in a "nice" way. By nice, I mean that the  
filament is broken in exactly one place, and the ends are nearly touching.  
In this case, I have brought broken filaments back to life by applying  
filament power only, and then tapping the tube until the broken ends  
make contact. If you're lucky, the ends will effectively be rewelded  
together. If you're not lucky, well, it was worth a try!

In most cases where I brought a tube back to life using this method, the  
filament broke again later. Perhaps by applying more than the rated voltage  
across the filament, you can get a better weld? Anybody with this  
experience out there?

Tim

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 20:22:25 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 18:55:19 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504172351.SAA08699@zoom.bga.com>  
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>  
Subject: Re: Tube rebuilders (was: NEW TUBES)

As Tim Shoppa said

>  
> You may not have to go through the trouble of paying someone else to do this,  
> \*if\* the filament is broken in a "nice" way. By nice, I mean that the  
> filament is broken in exactly one place, and the ends are nearly touching.  
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>  
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> filament broke again later. Perhaps by applying more than the rated voltage  
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> experience out there?  
>

This was a WW II game to bring 50L6's back to life. The method was to  
hook a Ford T spark coil across the heater and have at it. 35Z5's got  
resistors across the pilot light section if that was burned out. Most  
of the time the Ford coil trick didn't work, but every so often, it

did. The best candidates were the tubes that would open up when the heater came up to temp, then remake the circuit when the heater cooled back down. While 50L6's were the prime candidates, the 12-volt "All American Five" series heater tubes also got this method applied.

Not a very permanent fix. If you're dealing with filaments, you're also likely to be dealing with tension springs that will pull the filament ends apart if it breaks.

--

\*\*\*\*\*  
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 00:52:44 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 23:25:03 -0500  
Message-Id: <9504180420.AA28824@texan.frco.com>  
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)  
Subject: Re: Tube rebuilders (was: NEW TUBES)

I'd think this was a perfect application for capacitor discharge welding, though I've no idea what energy would be appropriate. Probably could find out with about 25 of each type with different filament structures. :-) Don't know how much metal would be vaporized in the arc, to reduce the vacuum in the tube.

Saw an itinerant glassblower friend last weekend, who said that you can buy wires with glass beads on them, which solves one of the problems of homemade tubes. Now, where am I gonna find those exotic cathode materials, or thoriated tungsten? If I tried to reclaim them from burned out tubes, would air damage them so that they have to be kept (and transferred) in vacuum?

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com work 612 895 2085

P.S.

As always, if it was that easy to rebuild a tube, wouldn't somebody be doing it?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 07:37:14 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:10:28 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171104.GAA17072@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Viking II Keying Notes Revisited

For all the folks who were interested in my keying modifications to my Viking II, I'll be US-Mailing out the notes (with gratis schematics for the original V-II and 122 VFO) to all the Johnson addicts who had addresses

included in their original replies. If you would like to receive the mod info, please respond to my email address with your snail-mail address (and not to the boatanchors list, save bandwidth!).

I experimented with using a flat bed scanner to scan schematics, and while the small ones converted to rather nice bmp or gif files, the original V-II sheet just took up too many bits once scanned with sufficient resolution to make it semi-readable to include in an email attachment (which was the original idea).

This isn't a particularly large set of stuff, but if everybody and their brother replies, I'd appreciate an SASE. Included are my currently used grid blocked keying setup, along with my next circuit revision ideas, which incorporates time sequenced keying to the VFO along with grid block keying of the buffer stages.

73! - Mark, NE9G

mshaum@xnet.com  
or..  
146 Birch St.  
Carpentersville, IL 60110

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Apr 18 00:10:40 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 21:43:30 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504180239.VAA16128@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: Viking II Keying Notes Revisited

>You wrote:

>>

>>For all the folks who were interested in my keying modifications to my  
>

>>Viking II, I'll be US-Mailing out the notes (with gratis schematics  
>for the  
>>original V-II and 122 VFO) to all the Johnson addicts who had  
>addresses

>>included in their original replies. If you would like to receive the

>Always looking for ways to improve my Viking -II. An SASE seems cheap  
>at half the price. I have a bunch of Viking 2 MOds. A and B. Are  
>these similar to what you are sending out? Lets see where we are .  
>

I have photocopies of the Johnson "A" and "B" mods, neither addresses anything in the keying circuitry. The "A" mod incorporated the 6AQ5 clamp tube for the final screens, and the "B" mod addressed the audio and modulator stages, along with some minor stability mods in the rf stages. Be

happy to send my "A" and "B" to compare with your "A" and "B"..who knows, I may be missing some pages..

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 14:12:32 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 12:45:47 -0500  
Message-Id: <01HPG250G4SIEHY7RX@tntech.edu>  
From: cfm5723@tntech.edu (Conard Murray)  
Subject: Viking II Notes

Hi Mark! I dunno if I sent you a snail-mail address or not. We (WA4SOH and I) sure thank you for making this information available! We need the schematic for the rig and VFO and the keying mods you have come up with. We will be using the Viking II with a SX101.

Thanks again and 73 de Conard WS4S

Conard Murray  
217 Dyer Avenue  
Cookeville, TN 38501

Conard F.Murray, WS4S, NNNOUTN 615-372-3718  
R&D Engineer, Electrical Engineering Dept. cfm5723@tntech.edu  
Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN 38505

My other rig is a BA too...

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 07:27:20 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 06:00:28 -0500  
Message-Id: <199504171053.FAA15861@quake.xnet.com>  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: When all the tubes are gone...

>Then there was some company that made FET replacements for the tubes in  
>Collins S-line gear, but seems like somebody said they had gone out of  
>business.  
>  
>The day may come when us boat anchor types will have to form a technical  
>committee to design and experiment and figure out ways to keep the BAs  
>alive when all the tubes are gone. Seems to me the only possibilities

>are replacement of tubes with solid-state components (will there still be  
>FETs even?), or new manufacture of tubes, or repair of existing tubes.  
>Hmm, should we be saving up all our bad tubes in case tube repair turns  
>out to be the technology of choice?

There was a good article in QST or HR around the early 70's that covered the conversion of a Drake B line to solid state (including the T4XB driver tube, excluding the finals!). High voltage FET's were utilized in cascode circuits to approximate the response curves of vt triodes and tetrodes. I picked up a few of the 250 -400 volt FET units at the time and still have them packed away for use somewhere. I'll try to pinpoint the article and present the info shortly. The idea was to provide as close to plug-in replacements as possible (not 100% plug in, some minor circuit changes were required, but these were minimal as I recall).

One of the last HR issues detailed a solid state conversion of a 75A4. This sparked my interest in finding an A4 again, but unfortunately coincided with the upward slope of pricing. If I ever find one with a clean front panel and non-working innards for under \$200, I'll proceed with with the 75A4-SS project. At the time of the HR article, the FETs were still available under special arrangement with the manufacturer (i.e. a friendly ham on the sales or marketing staff) which would otherwise be unavailable in small quantities. Darned if I can recall the manufacturer, but it was one of the smaller firms catering to a vertical market. Again, more info to follow once I find the articles in question.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Apr 17 08:42:28 1995  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 07:15:14 -0500  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950417045614.16840A-100000@crl5.crl.com>  
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>  
Subject: Re: When all the tubes are gone...

Mark I think the company you are talking about was (is ?)

Sartori Associates  
Engineering Services for Communicators  
P.O. Box 2085  
Richardson, Texas 75080  
214 - 494- 3093  
Howard Sartori, W5DA

Do not know if they are still around, havn't seen an AD for years.

de stan ak0b

On Mon, 17 Apr 1995, Mark Shaum wrote:

>  
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> >Collins S-line gear, but seems like somebody said they had gone out of  
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>  
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>  
>  
>